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Lava Beds National Monument News Release

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Lava Beds National Monument and the Tule Lake Unit Host Art of Survival Century Bicycle Ride

TULELAKE, California— The Tule Lake Unit and Lava Beds National Monuments are proud to host Northern California Cycle Challenge and Cycle Siskiyou's first event to promote bicycle tourism in Siskiyou County. The Northern California Cycle Challenge: Art of Survival Century (100 mile loop), 45 mile loop, and 35 mile loop family ride are inspiring routes set in one of the most beautiful, remote and undiscovered areas of the Tulelake/Klamath Falls region in Northern California and Southern Oregon. All three rides start and finish at the Tulelake Butte Valle Fairgrounds in Tulelake on Saturday, May 24, 2014. There will be several stops along the way where NPS rangers will be on hand to answer questions about the history of the Modoc War, Japanese American incarceration and the natural world.

The long-term vision for these rides is to showcase a different part of Siskiyou County every season and to evolve into a multi-day event should riders support that direction. "Our motto is Fitness, Family and Fun which is reflected in the different course options," said ride director Laurie Bagley.

"We are excited to host this great event. It is a great way to encourage exercise and education in the Tulelake Basin. The National Park Service has been working to promote health and learning throughout its 401 units," adds Mike Reynolds, superintendent of both Lava Beds and Tule Lake.

The rides weave through incredible wetland areas with a huge array of birds, wildlife and springtime wild flowers. "We are excited not only to provide great rides, but also to bring a powerful educational component to the focus of the ride this year," said Bagley. The ride is taking place in conjunction with "The Art of Survival" exhibition at the Favell Museum in Klamath Falls April 5 through July 12, which delves into the complexities of the Tule Lake Japanese American Segregation Center of WWII. These will be the perfect rides for history buffs and wildlife enthusiasts, as they include rest stops at the Tule Lake Unit of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, the Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Captain Jack's Stronghold in Lava Beds National Monument.

For more information about the ride, visit northerncaliforniacyclechallenge.com or contact Laurie Bagley at lauriebagley@gmail.com or (541) 399-7226.

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Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8100, email labe_interpretation@nps.gov, or go to www.nps.gov/labe.

The Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, established in 2008, is a nationally significant site dedicated to telling the story of the cost of war on the home front and the lasting effects of the unjust incarceration of over 29,000 US citizens and long-term residents of Japanese ancestry at the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

For more information about visiting the Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, call 530-260-0537, email <u>tule_interpretation@nps.gov</u>, or go to <u>www.nps.gov/tule</u>.

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